

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	EAS.91
Historic Name:	Dill, Joseph House
Common Name:	
Address:	1965 Massasoit Rd
City/Town:	Eastham
Village/Neighborhood:	North Eastham
Local No:	01-0128
Year Constructed:	c 1733
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	No style
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood Shingle; Wood Foundation: Concrete Unspecified



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM B - BUILDING

P.L. N EAST

EAS.91

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Assessor's
Number

01/0128

USGS Quad

Orleans

Area(s)

Form Number

91

Town

Eastham



neighborhood or village)

1965 Massasoit Road

c Name

resent Residential

original

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Construction c. 1733

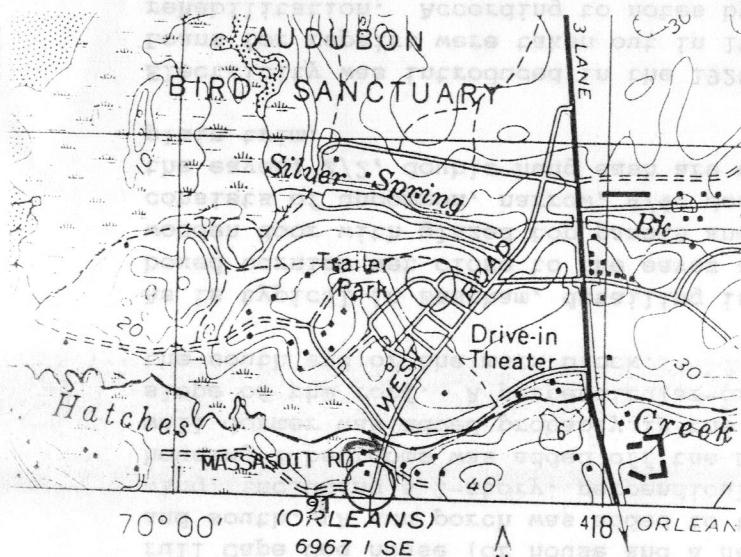
See Bibliography*

orm Center-chimney, Full Cape Cod
House Form

ct/Builder

r Material:

here. Indicate North.



Foundation Concrete

Wall/Trim Shingles

Roof Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Free-
standing, modern, shed-roofed shed

Major Alterations (with dates)
See Architectural Description

Condition Good

Moved ☐ no ☒ yes Date Unknown

Acreage .54 Acres

Setting Located in a moderately-settled,
rural area near the Wellfleet boundary.

Recorded by: Dianne L. Siergiej
and Sanford Johnson
Organization: Commonweal Collaborative

Date: August 1995

RECEIVED

SEP 20 1995

MASS. HIST. COMM.

BUILDING FORM

1965 Massasoit Road

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION See continuation sheet.

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The 1 1/2-story, rectangular, 5 x 2-bay, center-chimney main block of this full Cape Cod house (or house and a half) has been expanded to both the north and south. A sun porch was added to the south elevation in the 1940's; a wing, including a 1-story, perpendicular-oriented, gable-roofed section, housing 2 bedrooms was added off the North elevation in 1992, a shed-roofed, wall dormer was added probably in the 1930's to the south end of the rear slope of the roof. A perpendicular-oriented, 1-story, rear ell projects off the south end of the main block.

As is typical in Eastham, detailing is scarce, largely limited to end boards, boxed cornice set close to the eaves and a simple, main entry of 6-panel, wooden door with glazed top panels and a surround of plain trim. Fenestration consists of uncommon, narrow, 4/4, double-hung sash windows set close to the eaves; 2/2, double-hung sash are utilized on the second story. All have plain trim.

Electricity was introduced in the 1920's, plumbing in the 1930's. Loans for repairs were taken out in 1956 indicating another major rehabilitation. According to notes by current owners, the interior contains 24" wide boards in the wainscoting, hand-planed doors, loft stairs and antique hardware.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE X See continuation sheet.

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Massasoit Road was developed during the Federal Period (1775-1830). By the end of the Federal Period, Methodists had established a campground near Campground Road off Massasoit Road. This center for summer religious retreats lasted from 1830 to 1862 when the camp moved to Yarmouth. By 1831, one of Eastham's five schools and many residences were located on Massasoit Road.

It is likely that many of the residents were involved in agriculture. Grains were an early cash crop in Eastham and later, asparagus and turnips became more common. Husbandry and fishing were also important sources of income for Massasoit Road residents. By 1901, at least seven farmers were living on Massasoit Road. There were also a clerk, lighthouse keeper, laborer and a grocer. A provisions store was located on the corner of Oak and Massasoit Roads. By the twentieth century, the road had become an important way from Orleans through Eastham to Wellfleet. Seasonal residents had begun building summer homes and cottages by the Early Modern Period.

According to notes provided by Shirley Nickerson Williams in the file at the Eastham Historical Society Archives, 1965 Massasoit Road was constructed c. 1733 probably in or near Wellfleet. It has since been moved twice from

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES X See continuation sheet.

 Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;
If checked, see attached National Register Criteria Statement form.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (continued)

its original location. The dates and locations of these moves are not known. Its first owners in Eastham were Ruth (Lincoln) Nickerson Dill and Joseph Dill Sr. c. 1880. They may have owned the building as early the year of their marriage, 1866. Eastham maps of 1880 and 1908 show the house in this location and attribute it to J. Dill.

Joseph Dill Jr. inherited the house. His widow, Sarah, survived him and next married Leon Smith. Neither Joseph Dill Sr. or Jr. is mentioned in local, secondary sources. Sarah Dill Smith sold the house in 1947 to Almena Freeman and Francis T. Nye. The latter owned the property until 1969 when Almena Freeman (1896-1982) sold a life estate to Edward D. and Ruth E. Johnston.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

*House File 1965 Massasoit Road, Eastham Historical Society Archives.

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Resident and Business Directory of Cape Cod, 1901.

Roger, Josiah, Knowles, Elijah and Kinsman, Simeon. Map of the Town of Eastham, 1794.

*Walker, George F. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston: George F. Walker & Co., 1880.

_____. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston Walker Lithographer and Publishing Co., 1908.

Wallings, Henry F. Map of Eastham. Boston: D. R. Smith Co., 1858.